

# a message from president larry g. vetter

Dear MGCSA Member:

As I approach the end of serving two years as your President, I do so with mixed emotions. It has been a rewarding two years, yet it has been time consuming and, at times, frustrating. Rewarding in that continuing programs were expanded and improved and new programs were initiated. Frustrating in that even more could not be accomplished.

During these two years, several accomplishments stand out as major factors in the advancement of our profession. It would be difficult to single out the most important, for the long range cannot be assessed so soon. However, one that must be considered is the increased stature that individual members and MGCSA in general has gained in the eyes of club officials. On several occasions, and particularly recently, we have been contacted for advice on turf problems or for locating a new superintendent for a club. We know this makes good sense, but apparently the clubs did not, until recently. What better way to help one of our members find a new position? What better way to help a club solve a problem or get the best superintendent they can afford? And when one of our members moves to a new position, this creates another opportunity for another MGCSA member. Almost without exception, this can help all of us, not just the principals involved. Future use of this service provided by MGCSA to its members and area golf clubs will definitely help our Association.

Not long ago MGCSA board members and, in particular, the Secretary, were experiencing an increase in work load with association business that made many decline running for office because it was too time consuming. Partially because of this we decided to retain an Executive Director and maintain an office. As is obvious, this decision was a sound one that has had far-reaching effects. First, the Executive Director is the person primarily responsible for our monthly publication "Hole Notes." He accumulates information and news, lays out the material, has it printed and mailed, and solicits support for the publication. He also is involved in other membership services in whatever way he can assist the Board and general membership. More times than not each issue of "Hole Notes" has been better than the last. Al Wareham was retained in this position and has been instrumental in many ways in MGCSA progress since he joined us.

Among other things he has made the work load bearable for your officers and directors. We can now concentrate on policy and decision making in our limited time which is as it should be. Because of the above I want to personally and professionally thank Al from deep down inside for his contribution to MGCSA through the many efforts he has expended. You have done a super job for all of us, Al, and I, as President, want you to know we appreciate it.

MGCSA has come a long way in the last few years. These accomplishments don't just happen. Possibilities are explored- investigated, nurtured, thought out and implemented if they seem beneficial. We now have a workable program with Anoka-Tec. We have minimized costs for our meetings. We can be proud to have been accepted for a GCSAA Pesticide Seminar. MGCSA, incidentally, was the first chapter to request this seminar for its membership. Our monthly meetings are better attended than ever. Our working relationship with other golf related associations is closer than ever. Our membership services are more numerous than ever, our involvement is greater and our rewards greater in many areas. MGCSA membership continues to increase, which demonstrates that our activity is not unnoticed.

In addition to Al, I want to thank our Associate members who help support our many activities. Also my fellow officers, directors, committee personnel and members who gave their time and energy to MGCSA activities during the past two years. I also encourage you to continue in your efforts as I pledge to do. Remember, to stand still in a world which is going forward has but one result, losing ground.

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## Greens' Clippings

We are sorry to report that Ray Frieburg, an employee of the Minneapolis Park Board and member of the MGCSA, passed away very suddenly on November 9th. Ray was born in Spokane, Washington in December 1922 and was just a little over 51 years of age at the time of his death. He is survived by his Mother, with whom he lived, and two brothers, Marvin and Lloyd. He was employed for a time as a golf professional at the University of Minnesota. He joined the Navy in January 1943 and was discharged in June 1946. Ray was a fine golfer and played in several local tournaments. Ray entered the services of the City of Minneapolis in 1949 and in 1950 transferred from the Water Department to the Park Department where he was continuously employed until his death. At the time of his death he held the classification of Foreman with the Park Department. The Officers and members of the MGCSA extend their sincere sympathy to his survivors.



Ray Frieburg

More vandalism, in fact this was theft. Vandals broke into the shop of the Superintendent of the Granite Falls Golf Course and stole a four-wheel 1974 Cushman Electric Golf Cart. The cart was white and gray, serial number 481384 which is shown at the front of the left side frame rail. If this cart should show up at your course, or if you should learn of some information as to its whereabouts, please notify Mr. R. W. Olson, Superintendent at Granite Falls Golf Course, phone (612) 564-2521 or his home 564-9801, or this Editor at (612) 922-6414.

Do you have or know where a used but still usable Greens' Mower can be located that the owner would donate to a worthy group (minimum security inmates at the Stillwater State Prison). They have or are building a 4-hole golf course and need this equipment. If you have any information, please contact Dr. Donald White, Horticulture Science Bldg., Room 415, U of M, St. Paul Campus 55101. Also if any of the superintendents or superintendent would like to assist the inmates in the construction of their course, you can also contact Dr. White and if unable to contact him, you can call the Editor at (612) 922-6414. Dr. White's phone number is (612) 373-1609. (cont'd on page 5)

VETTER (cont'd from page 2)

In closing, I want to thank you for entrusting the leadership of your association to me for the past two years. My one main hope at this point is that my efforts have helped MGCSA at least a fraction of the amount that my association with it and its members has helped me. I am very proud to be a member of this organization and hope that I have helped it during my terms.



Respectfully,

Larry G. Vetter  
President, MGCSA

Holiday Greetings &  
Best Wishes  
for the  
New Year!!

From JERRY COMMERS and STAFF  
CUSHMAN MOTOR CO., INC.  
2909 E. Franklin Avenue

BERGERSON-CASWELL, INC.  
WELL & PUMP REPAIR - MAINTENANCE  
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NOTE - There is still time to sign up for  
the GCSAA Pesticide Seminar, December 4-5.